

REMARKS

OVERVIEW

The present amendment accompanies a request for continuing examination. Currently pending are claims 8-13 and 15-17. Claims 8 and 16 have been amended. Claim 17 is new. Reconsideration and passage to issuance is respectfully requested.

ISSUES UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 8-10 and 16 were previously rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,574,930 to Riddel et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,099,164 to Rosen et al. Claims 8 and 16 have been amended. In particular, claim 8 now explicitly requires "determining a standardized physical size for the thin film negative temperature coefficient thermistor." Similarly, claim 16 now explicitly requires the new limitation of "determining a standardized physical size for the thin film negative temperature coefficient thermistor." Support for this amendment is found in the application as originally filed, for example on page 3 of the original specification, first paragraph under the "SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION" which states that "The NTC thermistor of the present invention results in the ability to have standardized sizes of resistors in that the resistance value need not be dependent upon the physical size of the thermistor." Support is also found on page 8 of the original specification, lines 3-8, stating that "This advantage of the present inventions permits NTC thermistors having different curves to be manufactured in the same size. Thus a particular size of thermistor may be made from different mixtures of film materials thus yielding different negative temperature coefficient versus temperature curves." Page 8, lines 12-15 state "The present

invention allows two different NTC thermistors having the same physical size to have different curves, such as curve 70 and curve 72. This advantage allows package sizes to be standardized."

It is respectfully submitted that the new limitation is not disclosed in either Riddel or Rosen, and therefore overcomes the rejections and therefore, these claims should be allowed. As claims 11-13 and 15 depend from claim 8, it is respectfully submitted that these rejections should also be withdrawn.

NEW CLAIM

Claim 17 is a new claim that requires "A method of manufacturing a thin film negative temperature coefficient thermistor of a standardized package size, comprising sputter depositing a mixture of metal film materials on a substrate, the mixture of metal film materials selected to provide for desired negative temperature coefficient of resistance properties while maintaining the standardized package size." Support for claim 17 is found in the specification as filed, including page 6, first full paragraph, and page 8, first full paragraph. The limitation of "sputtering" is found on page 5, line 1. Claim 17 requires the limitation of "the mixture of metal film materials selected to provide for desired negative temperature coefficient of resistance properties while maintaining the standardized package size" which is not present in either Riddel nor Rosen. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner should also find new claim 17 allowable.

SUMMARY

Based upon the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in proper form for allowance. A request for continuing examination accompanies this amendment along with the requisite filing fee. Also, please charge \$110.00 for a one-month extension of time to our Deposit Account No. 26-0084. No other fees or extensions of time are believed to be

due in connection with this amendment; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 26-0084.

Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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